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**PRESS RELEASE**

April 8, 2015

The Town of Grafton is grateful to acknowledge the "Friend of the Court" brief filed by Congressman Jim McGovern in support of the Town's position in its appeal of the Surface Transportation Board's ruling of September 2014. In that ruling, the Surface Transportation Board gave the green light to the Grafton & Upton Railroad's plan to site what will be the largest propane facility in the Commonwealth, in a residential neighborhood, in close proximity to homes, a K-2 elementary school, a branch of the library/little league field, and on top of one of the Town's aquifers. In addition to the propane facility itself (which will consist of 4 massive 320,000 gallon above ground storage tanks and related infrastructure), there will be an industrial scale trucking operation associated with the facility, since the propane will be transloaded from rail cars onto tanker trucks for distribution. The STB's decision is based on its finding of preemption of all local zoning and environmental protection laws under the Interstate Commerce Commission Termination Act of 1995. With no environmental assessment of the project ever undertaken, the STB's decision concludes with sentence that the decision "will not significantly affect" the "quality of the human environment." Congressman Jim McGovern and state Senator Michael Moore have been actively assisting the Town in responding to the GURR's proposal.